

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 64, as amended, appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. The amendments are fully supported by the specification and claims as originally filed. In addition, the amendments to the independent claims add recitations that elaborate on the structure of the presently claimed invention, and, thus, do not affect the scope of the claims. The amendments only further clarify the claimed invention.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1 to 9, 18 to 27, 36 to 45, 47, 49 to 60, 62, and 63, and submit that all the claims are in condition for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 10 to 13, 15 to 17, 28 to 31, 33 to 35, 61, and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 121(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Huang et al., "Role of Molecular Size in Ratchet Fractionation," Physical Review Letters, vol. 89, no. 17, 21 October 2002, 178301-4 (Huang) for the reasons set forth on pages 3 to 5 of the Office Action.

In response, Applicants submit that the Huang reference is not prior art to the present claims. As evidence of Applicants' position, Applicants submit herewith (see Attachment 1) a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 with the required supporting documentation.

As Huang is not prior art, the present claims are not anticipated by that reference. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 10 to 13, 15 to 17, 28 to 31, 33 to 35, 61, and 64 under 35 U.S.C. 121(a) over Huang.


Applicants thus submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, an early notice of which would be appreciated. Should the Examiner not agree with Applicants' position, a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues prior to the issuance of a further Office Action, and to expedite the allowance of the application.

A separate Petition for an Extension-of-Time is attached. Should any other fees be due, however, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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